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## 'CAV' TROOPS OF V CORPS' 1ST ARMORED DIVISION DEPLOY TO KOREA FOR OPERATION FOAL EAGLE

**By Sgt. Christopher Stanis**

1st Armored Division Public Affairs Office

**PUSAN, Republic of Korea --** Iron Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 1st U.S.

Cavalry of V Corps' 1st Armored Division deployed here in March to support Operation Foal Eagle.



SGT CHRISTOPHER STANIS

Soldiers of 1st Armored Division's 1st Squadron, 1st U.S. Cavalry prepare vehicles stored in a pre-positioning facility in Pusan, Republic of South Korea for field exercises while participating in exercise Foal Eagle.

The 87 Soldiers -- a group comprised of two platoons from the 1-1st's Comanche Troop and members of the squadron headquarters -- came here to prove they could deploy and put assets already in place at their destination to work.

The exercise brings all branches of service together from around the world to demonstrate intra-theatre lift capabilities -- that is, the movement of military equipment throughout the area.

"(The exercise) is designed to show that we can be put in to theatre, draw pre-positioned war equipment, move it and put it in to action," said Capt. Chase Metcalf, C Troop commander.

The one-month event is designed to assess the capabilities of U.S. forces, but the squadron gets something extra from this mission, he said.

"Gunnery and crew qualification are an added bonus," said Metcalf. The unit will spend about a week at Rodriguez Range, located near the Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas, firing pre-positioned tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles.

Although 1-1st CAV spent February conducting gunnery at the Grafenwoehr (Germany) Training Area, the Soldiers are always ready to man their guns.

"Training in a different environment is always a good thing," said Sgt. Joseph Ryker, a Bradley gunner with C Troop. "Just give me something that shoots and I'll squeeze the trigger."

Ryker said he enjoys the idea of new training, adding that he was most impressed by his unit's deployment capabilities.

"It's awesome how the Army can make this happen," he said. "We were able to make a move like this in a pretty short time, and now we're sitting in Korea, training."

